

#### IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A metal cap for a container, the metal cap having a top part and a side part connected to and extending peripherally around the top part to form a generally cylindrically shaped cavity with a packing disposed in the cavity and contacting the top part and an upper portion of the side part adjacent the top part, the metal cap having a knurl part with slits formed on an outer perimeter thereof so as to release outside an inner pressure of the container generated from contents contained therein,

wherein the knurl part comprises,  
plural of knurls having short width slits and at least one knurl having a long width slit; and  
the knurl having long width slit is formed in a mixture with the knurls having short width slits and

wherein the plural of knurls having short width slits and the knurl having the long width slit are formed on and about the side part, the short width slits and the long width slit extending through the side part adjacent the upper portion of the side part yet disposed apart from the packing.

2. (Currently Amended) A metal cap for a container, the metal cap having a top part and a side part connected to and extending peripherally around the top part to form a generally cylindrically shaped cavity with a packing disposed in the cavity and contacting the top part and an upper portion of the side part adjacent the top part, the metal cap having an upper outer perimeter, a lower outer perimeter and a knurl part with slits, the knurl part formed between the upper outer perimeter and the lower outer perimeter with the slits disposed adjacent the upper outer perimeter so as to release outside an inner pressure of the container generated from contents contained therein,

wherein the knurl part comprises plural of knurls having slits disposed adjacent the upper outer perimeter; and

at least one communicating slit disposed adjacent the upper outer perimeter is formed in a gap between the adjacent knurls communicating the adjacent slits to form a long width slit and

wherein the slits and the at least one communicating slit are formed about the side part, extend through the side part adjacent the upper portion of the side part and are disposed apart from the packing.

3. (Original) A metal cap according to claim 1, wherein;  
the short width slit or the long width slit is formed as being extended outside from right or left edge of the knurl.

4. (Original) A metal cap according to claim 2, wherein;  
the slit or the long width slit is formed as being extended outside from right or left edge of the knurl.

5. (Previously Presented) A metal cap having a top part and a side part connected to and extending peripherally around the top part to form a generally cylindrically shaped cavity with a packing disposed in the cavity and contacting the top part and an upper portion of the side part adjacent the top part, the metal cap being threadably engaged onto a mouth portion of a container such that a rim defining a mouth of the container engages an outer peripheral portion of the packing so as to seal pressurized contents of the container contained therein to a predetermined pressure, the metal cap comprising:

a plurality of knurls formed on and about the side part, at least one knurl formed with a slit extending through the side part adjacent the upper portion thereof and disposed apart from the packing, the slit sized in a manner such that, when an internal pressure of the container exceeds the predetermined pressure, a part of the upper portion of the metal cap adjacent and partially defining the slit deforms by an amount sufficient to cause disengagement between a section of the packing and a section of the rim thereby relieving a portion of the internal pressure exceeding the predetermined pressure.

6. (Previously Presented) A metal cap according to claim 5, wherein relieving the portion of the internal pressure exceeding the predetermined pressure occurs without turning the metal cap portion and the container relative to each other.

7. (Previously Presented) A metal cap according to claim 5, wherein the at least one slit extends in a peripheral direction.

8. (Currently Amended) A metal cap for a container, the metal cap having a top part and a side part connected to and extending peripherally around the top part to form a generally cylindrically shaped cavity with a packing disposed in the cavity and contacting the top part and an upper portion of the side part adjacent the top part, the metal cap having a knurl part that includes plural of knurls with slits formed on an outer perimeter thereof so as to release outside an inner pressure of the container generated from contents contained therein,

wherein a long slit longer than the slits formed on the plural of knurls ~~knurl~~ is formed between consecutive ones of the knurls and

wherein the slits and the long slit are formed about the side part, extend through the side part adjacent the upper portion of the side part and are disposed apart from the packing.

9. (New) A metal cap according to claim 1, wherein the long width slit is sized in a manner such that, when an internal pressure of the container exceeds the predetermined pressure, a part of the upper portion of the metal cap adjacent and partially defining the long width slit deforms by an amount sufficient to cause disengagement between a section of the packing and a section of the rim thereby relieving a portion of the internal pressure exceeding the predetermined pressure.

10. (New) A metal cap according to claim 1, wherein the knurl part comprises a plurality of short width knurls having a short width slit and a long width knurl having long width slit.

11. (New) A metal cap according to claim 10, wherein the width of each short width knurl having short width slit is the same as the width of the short width slit and the width of the long width knurl having long width slit is same as the width of the long width slit.